

**Topical Heading**

# School Improvement

**Program Title**

# Charter Schools Program

**Also Known as**

Charter Schools, Public Charter Schools Program, CSP

**CFDA # (or ED #)**

84.282

**Administering Office**

Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII)

**Who May Apply (by category)**

State Education Agencies (SEAs)

**Who May Apply (specifically)**

SEAs in states with a state statute specifically authorizing the establishment of charter schools may apply.

Note: Non-SEA eligible applicants in states in which the SEA elects not to participate in or does not have an application approved under the Charter Schools Program may apply for funding directly from the Department. The Department plans to hold separate competitions for non-SEA eligible applicants under CFDA # 84.282B and # 84.282C.

**Current Competitions**

FY 2006 application deadline for 84.282A: March 10, 2006.

FY 2006 application deadline for 84.282 B and 84.282C: June 30, 2006 (tentative).

**Type of Assistance (by category)**

Discretionary/Competitive Grants

**Appropriations**

Fiscal Year 2004      \$200,000,000

Fiscal Year 2005      \$200,000,000

Fiscal Year 2006      \$200,000,000

Note: The FY 2006 appropriation listed above does not include \$14.78 million for the State Charter School Facilities Incentive Grants program, which is funded when the appropriation for the Charter Schools Program exceeds \$200 million. See State Charter School Facilities Incentive Grants program (# 84.282D), also under topical heading "School Improvement."

**Fiscal Year 2006 Awards Information**

*Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.*

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 10–12 for SEAs; 10–15 for non-SEAs.

Average New Award: \$3,000,000 for SEAs; \$150,000 for non-SEAs.

Range of New Awards: \$500,000–\$2,000,000 for SEAs; \$10,000–\$150,000 for non-SEAs.

Number of Continuation Awards: 44

Average Continuation Award: \$5,619,587 for SEAs; \$150,000 for non-SEAs

**Legislative Citation**

*Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965*, as amended, Title V, Part B, Subpart 1.

**Program Regulations**

*EDGAR*

**Program Description**

This program provides financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools, and the dissemination of information on charter schools. Grants are available, on a competitive basis, to SEAs in states that have charter school laws; SEAs in turn make subgrants to developers of charter schools who have applied for a charter. If an eligible SEA elects not to participate or if its application for funding is not approved, the Department can make grants directly to charter school developers.

**Types of Projects**

An eligible applicant that receives a grant or subgrant may use the funds only for post-award planning and design of the education program of a charter school. It may carry out such activities as the refinement of the desired education results, the refinement of the methods for measuring progress toward achieving those results, and the initial implementation of the charter school. Implementation may include informing the community about the charter school and acquiring necessary equipment, materials, and supplies. Other eligible operational costs that cannot be met by state and local sources also may be covered. A state may reserve up to 10 percent of its allocation to support eligible charter schools for dissemination activities.

**Education Level (by category)**

K-12

**Subject Index**

Charter Schools, Community Involvement, Parent Participation, School Choice

**Contact Information**

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**Links to Related Web Sites**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/charter/index.html#>